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Mr. Hardinge made the following observations :— I hand in, Mr. President, as the property of the Academy, the original MS. from which my “Memoir on Townland and other Surveys in Ireland of a public character, from the year 1641 to the year 1688,” was published in the Academy’s “Transactions;” and beg to observe that the value of the MS. is, that it exhibits the superior form in which the statistical analyses of the forfeited, profitable, and unprofitable baronial areas of the lands exhibited in Appendix E. would have appeared, had not a pressing necessity to economize the Academy’s funds obliged its modification to the form in which it has been printed. The MS. is also valuable in enabling any person to distinguish the author’s from the printer’s errors; and, as I lay claim to no infallibility this way, I consider the present an opportune time and place to state, that I will feel much obliged, upon the discovery of errors, if the discoverers will communicate to me their nature, and the exact references to them in the “Transactions” volume, I beg also to present to the Academy one of my own copies of the publication; it will be found to embrace an Introduction not contained in the copies distributed amongst the members of the Academy, and this Introduction divulges some circumstances that Academicians especially should be made acquainted with; it also contains two photographed Down Survey Maps, which in the operation were reduced to a size suitable for introduction into the “Transactions” volume. These maps were presented to me, in duplicate, by Sir Henry James, Chief of the Ordnance Survey Department. They are elegantly and accurately executed; and my reason for thus presenting them is, to promulgate the circumstances leading to their existence, and at the same time to perpetuate these circumstances and the illustrations themselves in the Library of the Academy.

The Academy then adjourned.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1864.

The VERY REV. CHARLES GRAVES, D. D., President, in the Chair.

J. Huband, Smith, Esq., exhibited an autograph letter of Oliver Cromwell to his son Henry, when Governor-General of Ireland, and read a paper explaining the circumstances referred to in the letter.

W. H. HARDINGE, Esq., read the following paper, containing some remarks on the Countess of Desmond, in the reign of Charles I. :—

#### THE OLD COUNTESS OF DESMOND.

It must appear presumptuous in me, thus occupying the position of a yet living, though unhappily absent author, in the observations I am about offering to the Academy on a few points hitherto unnoticed, and which I think throw additional light upon the history of the Old Countess of Desmond; but in explanation I may be permitted to state, that having placed at the disposal of the author alluded to the materials giv-